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AFTER SALMAN, NOW SHAH RUKH KHAN RECEIVES DEATH THREAT

Bandra police station received a call, reportedly from Chhattisgarh, threatening Bollywood actor Shah Rukh Khan and demanding ₹50 lakh

CALL MADE FROM RAIPUR-BASED LAWYER'S PHONE

The Mumbai police said the call was made from a phone number registered in the name of a lawyer based in Raipur. The lawyer told the police that he lost his phone last week and had filed a complaint. He later told the media that he had once filed a complaint against the actor over a movie dialogue perceived as hurting the sentiments of the Bishnoi community

CASE REGISTERED, CALLER NOT IDENTIFIED

- A case has been registered by the Bandra police under sections 308(4)(extortion) and 351(3)(4) (criminal intimidation) of Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS). No arrest has been made yet, an official said
- The threat to Shah Rukh Khan follows a series of threats issued to actor Salman Khan, allegedly by the Lawrence Bishnoi gang | P10

CATEGORY SECURITY GRANTED TO SHAH RUKH KHAN LAST YEAR BY MAHA GOVT

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Transition of power will be peaceful: Biden

US President Joe Biden speaking at the White House on Thursday | PTI/AP

AGENCIES

A day after Republican nominee Donald Trump emerged victorious in the presidential elections, US President Joe Biden said his administration would ensure a smooth and peaceful transfer of power.

In his address to the nation late on Thursday night — his first remarks from the White House since Donald Trump's win — Biden said he had spoken to Trump and assured him of an orderly transition of power.

Biden's address came a day after Vice-President Kamala Harris gave her concession speech and promised to keep up the "fight that fuelled this campaign."

In a bid to bring a closure to the bitterly contested election, which split people into two groups with extremely opposite views, Biden said: "Something you can do no matter who you voted for is, see each other not as adversaries but as fellow Americans."

Consoling supporters of Harris, he said electoral defeats are temporary. "Setbacks are unavoidable, but giving up is unforgivable," he said.

Earlier in the day, Chinese President Xi Jinping congratulated Trump on his election victory. Xi, in his congratulatory message to Trump, posted on the Chinese Foreign Ministry website, called for the two countries to strengthen dialogue and communication, properly manage differences and expand mutually beneficial cooperation.

Trump is expected to announce staff picks soon. Meanwhile, US media reports said the Justice Department is planning to drop cases against Trump in line with its policy that a sitting President can't be prosecuted. P15

> You can't love your country only when you win, you can't love your neighbour only when you agree. In a democracy, the will of the people prevails
>
> Joe Biden, US President

Jet liquidation flight rostered as SC claims there's no alternative

Orders forfeiture of Jalan-Kalrock consortium's ₹200 cr

ARSHAD KHAN @ New Delhi

THE Supreme Court on Thursday dashed all hopes of a revival of Jet Airways as it ordered liquidation of the firm, which had been undergoing the insolvency resolution process for over five years. A bench of Chief Justice D Y Chandrachud and Justices J B Pardiwala and Manoj Misra set aside the National Company Law Appellate Tribunal (NCLAT) ruling that upheld the transfer of the airline's ownership to Jalan-Kalrock Consortium (JKC).

The bench stated that the liquidation was in the interest of creditors, workers, and other stakeholders of Jet Airways. The court noted JKC's failure to infuse the promised funds of ₹350 crore to revive the airline.

The SC said no progress was seen in the resolution plan even after five years, leaving it with no choice but to send Jet Airways into liquidation. "Keeping in mind the fact that almost five years have elapsed since the Resolution Plan was duly approved by the NCLAT and there being no progress worth the name, we are left with no other option but to invoke our jurisdiction under Article 142 of the Constitution and direct that the corporate debtor be taken in liquidation," it said in the order.

The SC held that the NCLAT's directive for the SRA to adjust ₹150 crore towards the first tranche payment was in disregard of the Supreme Court's earlier order and the terms of the resolution plan.

The bench also ordered forfeiture of ₹200 crore invested by the consortium and authorised the lenders to invoke the ₹150 crore bank guarantee to recover some of their dues.

The NCLAT had in March upheld the resolution plan of Jet Airways and approved the transfer of its ownership to JKC. SBI, Punjab National Bank, and JC Flowers Asset Reconstruction Pvt Ltd challenged the NCLAT verdict.

Jet Airways stopped flying in April 2019. The National Company Law Tribunal in June 2021 gave approval to the Kalrock Capital and Murari Lal Jalan consortium's bid for Jet Airways, eight months after the lenders had given a go-ahead to its resolution plan.

The consortium was supposed to infuse ₹1,375 crore in Jet Airways over 2-3 years. In the first tranche, it was to infuse ₹350 crore and ₹250 crore in the second tranche. The remaining ₹775 crore was to be infused from the second year. However, the consortium put in only ₹200 crore.

'NCLAT ORDER PERVERSE'

The Supreme Court rapped the NCLAT for allowing the Jalan-Kalrock Consortium to take over Jet Airways without fulfilling its payment obligations, terming the Appellate Tribunal's verdict 'perverse'

PAYMENT NORMS FLOUTED

SC noted that the NCLAT's approval of adjusting the performance bank guarantee as a partial payment was in "flagrant disregard" of an earlier directive of the court, as well as the terms of the resolution plan

JPC CHIEF MEETS FARMERS, HITS OUT AT WAQF BOARD

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Hubballi/Vijayapura

JAGADAMBIKA Pal, chairman of Joint Parliamentary Committee (JPC) on Waqf Amendment Bill, 2024, on Thursday questioned the legality of converting agricultural lands, mutts, and temple properties into Waqf assets.

He noted that this could not be happening without the complicity of state officials. He received petitions from the aggrieved people in Hubballi and Vijayapura.

Addressing the media in Hubballi, Pal expressed concern over declaration of lands with revenue records dating back to centuries as Waqf properties.

He said complaints have been pouring in from Dharwad, Bidar, Kalaburagi and Shivamogga districts, where thousands of acres of land associated with ancient mutts and temples are being reclassified as Waqf properties.

Pal said, "How can lands that farmers have been cultivating since the 1920s or 1930s be suddenly declared as Waqf properties?" P4

EXPRESS READ

Article 370 will not be restored, says BJP

NEW DELHI: The BJP termed the J&K Assembly's resolution seeking restoration of special status as an "attempt to divide India" by the INDIA bloc and asserted that it will not let them succeed in their effort. "The resolution shows the tactical support of the leaders of Congress and INDI Alliance to extremism," BJP leader Smriti Irani said. P10

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36 PAGES, INCLUDING 24 OF INDULGE (TABLOID)

Consular aid off as Canada fails to offer security

YESHI SELI @ New Delhi

CANADA'S failure to provide security assurance to Indian diplomats facing threats from Khalistani radicals, forced the India Consulate General in Toronto to cancel consular camps over the weekend. The decision comes days after Khalistani elements indulged in violence outside a temple in Brampton, where a consular camp co-organised by the Hindu Sabha mandir was underway.

"In view of the security agencies conveying their inability to provide minimum security protection to the community camp organisers, Consulate has decided to cancel some scheduled camps," the Indian Consulate in Toronto said.

Curiously, Canada also blocked social media handles of *Australia Today*, a diaspora news outlet, which had carried an interview with External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar on the India-Canada ties. "This highlights Ottawa's hypocrisy towards freedom of speech," said Randhir Jaiswal, MEA spokesperson.

In his media engagements in Australia, Jaishankar spoke about the Trudeau government making allegations without evidence, unacceptable surveillance of Indian diplomats, and the political space Canada has given to anti-India elements.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi had described as cowardly, attempts to intimidate Indian diplomats in Canada.

Consular camps are part of the mission's outreach programme for the diaspora to facilitate documentation.

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1,624 CASES IN 3 YEARS

Conviction rate in rape cases only 0.36% in state

RAKSHITH GOWDA @ Bengaluru

THE conviction rate in rape cases is only 0.36 % of the total number of cases reported in the state in the past three years. Lack of evidence, delay in trial, and shortage of judges are said to be the reasons for the poor conviction rate.

Of the 1,624 rape cases registered from 2022 till this September, only six cases ended in conviction, while 74 cases ended in acquittals. In all, 298 cases are under investigation and 1,037 cases are in courts. As many as 104 cases were found to be false.

As of September 2024, Bengaluru city alone reported 131 rape cases, followed by Tumakuru 20, and Chikkaballapur and Hassan 17 each.

According to the State Crime Records Bureau (SCRB), from January to September this year, 300 cases of rape were committed by known persons, 34 by victims' relatives, 37 by their neighbours, eight by unknown persons and 11 by gangs.

Former DG & IGP ST Ramesh told *TNIE* that the conviction rate in criminal cases is very low. He cited several reasons for this. The primary cause is delay in court trial.

CONTINUED ON P3

Yoga helps B'luru teacher escape murder bid, 5 held

V VELAYUDHAM @ Chikkaballapur

AN incident where a yoga teacher was allegedly kidnapped and assaulted by four supari killers and dumped in a forest area, believing her to be dead, has been reported from Dibburhalli police limits in Chikkaballapur district.

Though the incident took place on October 24, it came to light on Thursday with the arrest of the accused.

According to the police, the teacher, who became unconscious after the accused assaulted her, pretended to be dead. Yoga helped her hold her breath. After the accused left the spot, she reported the matter to the police with the help of some people from Dibburhalli. Chikkaballapur Superintendent of Police Kushal Chowksey said Archana, 35, the yoga teacher, had a strained relationship with her husband. The couple have two children and they hail from Krishnarajapuram in Bengaluru.

CONTINUED ON P5